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Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of

ADEN

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COLONY OF ADEN FOR 1937.

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

131 101 The Colony of Aden is situated on the south coast of Arabia and is bounded on the seaward side by the Gulf of Aden and on the landward side by the Aden Protectorate. It comprises—

(*a*) the peninsula on which are situated the main town known as Crater, the modern harbour suburb known as Tawahi, adjacent to which is an area leased by the Aden Settlement to the Air Ministry for Royal Air Force and military purposes and known collectively as Steamer Point but more particularly by the names of the spurs of Jebel Shamsan on which the buildings have been constructed, and lastly the dhow harbour and village of Maala;

(*b*) the isthmus known as Khormaksar;

(*c*) an area of land enclosing the modern harbour and extending north and west to the Little Aden peninsula. The villages of Sheikh Othman, Hiswa, Imad and Buraikha and Fakum, the last two on the Little Aden peninsula are situated in this area;

(*d*) the island of Perim.

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DESCRIPTION.

The Aden peninsula is high, rocky and of volcanic formation; Jebel Shamsan, its summit, is 1,725 feet (525 m.) high and there are some turreted peaks close to it. The harbour lies westward and north-west of the peninsula. Dwelling-houses and shops are constructed on the ridges of the mountain and in the valleys between them where the ground is normally level. Crater, the main and original town, is situated at a distance of five miles from the modern harbour and lies in the extinct volcano on the east of the peninsula.

The isthmus is a flat sandy plain on which has been laid out the aerodrome and lines of the Royal Air Force, the Naval wireless station, the Aden Protectorate Levy lines, and the golf course. Owing to lack of building space at Tawahi, dwelling-houses for senior Government officials have recently been constructed here. It is only 1,320 yards wide at its narrowest point near the peninsula. Cultivation occurs at Sheikh Othman in the form of a large vegetable and fruit garden belonging to the Aden Settlement. There are also privately-owned date palms there.

Hiswa has several groves of palms, but with these exceptions there is no regular cultivation in the Settlement.

PERIM.

Perim island, situated in the Straits of Bab-el-Mandab, is bare, rocky, and rather flat in appearance; its highest point, about a mile northward of its southern extremity, is 214 feet (65 m.) high. The surface of the island is grooved with dry watercourses and covered with coarse grass and stunted shrubs, the subsoil being sand and conglomerate coral. Perim harbour and False Bay, a small shoal light, lie on the southern side of the island. Perim was at one time of importance as a coaling station, and also from the Eastern Telegraph Company's station and Lloyd's signal station being situated there.

Climate.

There is a third-class meteorological observatory in Aden under the superintendence of the Medical Officer in charge of the European General Hospital. The maximum day temperature recorded was 100·3 in June, and the minimum was 68·1 in December. The rainfall totalled 8 centimetres. Hot sandy winds prevailed as usual during the south-west monsoon. There are no crops in Aden, which depends on supplies from other countries, principally India and the interior.

The climate of Aden from October to April, i.e. during the north-west monsoon, is cool and pleasant, especially from November to February. During the south-west monsoon, i.e. from June to September, a hot sandy wind known as Shimal prevails on the peninsula, but on its western side the breezes are

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from seaward and fairly cool. May, a part of June, and September are generally hot, damp, and airless. Sandstorms occur in the months of May, July and August. These come from a northerly direction usually a short time before sunset and blow very strongly at times up to 10 p.m., the air being so thick with sand that it is only possible to see a short distance, and the temperature falls. During the month of August dense mists occur at times and it is not possible to see across the harbour.

Meteorological records are maintained at the European General Hospital and the data are published in the Aden *Colony Gazette* weekly for the information of the public.

History.

Aden has been a place of importance historically owing to its possession of the only good harbour situated on the main ocean trade route between Egypt and India and to the fact that it is easily defensible. Prior to the discovery of the Cape route in the fifteenth century, the trade followed much the same course as the main trade route between the East and the West does to-day, i.e. across the Indian Ocean to Aden, thence up the Red Sea and across Egypt to the Mediterranean. From the earliest times the great Empires of the world realized the importance of Aden during this period, and during the time of the Romans at least two endeavours were made by them to capture the Red Sea trade and they sent an unsuccessful expedition against Aden.

The discovery of the Cape route at the end of the sixteenth century diverted the major portion of the trade from the old Red Sea route, and in consequence the port of Aden declined. Aden was attacked by the Portuguese in 1513 and 1516, captured by the Turks in 1538 and remained in their hands about 100 years until the Yemen Arabs rebelled and drove them out, Aden thus coming under the Imams of Sana', who have never renounced their claim to it. In 1728 the Sultan of Lahej, the ruler of the territory adjacent to Aden, revolted and established his independence and included Aden in his Sultanate. The decline of Aden continued until its capture by the British in 1839, when its village consisted of 500 inhabitants. Financial negotiations with the Sultan of Lahej having failed, the plundering of an Indian ship on the coast near Aden resulted in its capture by a successful expedition sent from Bombay by the East India Company under Major Bailey and Captain Haines of the Indian Navy. The latter became the first Resident. The desire to establish coaling stations on trade routes, necessitated by the replacement of sailing ships by steamer, was one of the reasons which led to Aden's occupation by the British. The revival of the Red Sea route and the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 regained for Aden its old importance. As a result of the increased prosperity of Aden since British occupation, the population has risen from 500 to 46,000. The modern commercial prosperity

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of Aden is based on the fact that it is a fuelling station, originally for coal and now for coal and oil. It is nearer than any other large port on the main Eastern trade route to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's production centre in the Persian Gulf. The fact that ships call at Aden for fuelling has caused a general increase in trade, and it is the distributing centre for trade to and from Arabia, Abyssinia, Somaliland and Africa.

Perim.

The first trace of the occupation of the Perim island goes back as far as 1738 when the French landed there, after the bombardment of Mocha. It was not until the 5th May, 1799, that the British took formal possession, but it is recorded that owing to difficulties in maintaining a supply of water they evacuated the island in the September of that year.

Perim was reoccupied in January, 1857, under instructions from Lord Elphinstone, Governor of Bombay, to Sir William Coghlan, Political Resident and Commander, Aden, and Lieutenant Templar in the *Mahi* was deputed to accomplish this reoccupation. The island was then placed under the control of an Assistant to the Political Resident, Aden. The Assistant Resident remained in control until 1929, when the Manager of the Perim Coal Company, Limited, was appointed Government Agent. On the closing down of the Perim Coal Company in October, 1936, the Commissioner of Police, Aden, was appointed Administrator of the island. A police detachment is maintained on the island, and the Administrator makes regular visits generally performing the journey by air.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Previously to the 1st April, 1932, the territory now comprising the Colony was administered by a Resident under the control of the Government of Bombay. From the 1st April, 1932, Aden became a Chief Commissionership, and control was transferred from the Government of Bombay to the Governor-General of India in Council, the Chief Executive Officer being styled Chief Commissioner, Resident and Commander-in-Chief. On the 1st April, 1937, Aden was constituted a Crown Colony and was removed from the control of the Government of India. The Colony is administered by a Governor, who is also Commander-in-Chief, aided by an Executive Council which at present comprises five members. The Council consists of the persons holding the offices of Political Secretary and Civil Secretary and such other persons as the Governor, in pursuance of instructions from His Majesty through the Secretary of State may from time to time appoint. At the present time, in addition to the *ex-officio* members, the Legal Adviser, the Finance Officer, and the Chairman of the Port Trust and Settlement have been appointed to the Council. There is no Legislative Council.

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Military Garrison.

701 The Military Garrison of the Colony is under the immediate command of an Air Officer Commanding and consists of Air Headquarters with its various departments, Headquarters Royal Artillery, 9th (Minden) Heavy Battery, R.A., 20th (Fortress) Company, R.E., No. 8(B) Squadron, R.A.F., a Section of Armoured Cars and the Aden Protectorate Levies. Air Headquarters, the Royal Artillery, the Royal Engineers and the Section of Armoured Cars are stationed at Tawahi (Steamer Point), while No. 8(B) Squadron, R.A.F. is at Khormaksar and Sheikh Othman.

There is a Naval Office (H.M.S. *Norfolk* III) in charge of the Naval Officer-in-Charge who also exercises general control over the Naval wireless station at Khormaksar.

III.—POPULATION.

161 According to the census of 1931, the total (civilian) population of the Aden Settlement was 45,992. This excludes the military forces and the population of Perim.

162 The following table shows the population distribution by caste and sex:—

No.	Caste.	Sex.	
		Males.	Females.
1	Arabs	18,388	10,341
2	Indian Mohammedans	2,829	2,393
3	Somalis	2,070	2,107
4	Hindoos	1,992	622
5	Jews	2,114	2,006
6	Parsis	236	96
7	Native Christians	339	207
8	Europeans	213	39
	Total	28,181	17,811

167 The total numbers of males and females show a marked disproportion, the males being 28,181 in number, whereas the females are only 17,811. This is due to the fact that most of the Arabs of the trade and coolie class from the interior come to Aden without their women folk.

IV.—HEALTH.

744 The staff of the Medical Department in Aden consists of the Senior Medical Officer, one Civil Surgeon, two Resident Medical 743 Officers and eight Assistant Medical Officers. There is a fully-qualified Lady Doctor attached to the Civil Hospital in Crater. The Senior Medical Officer is also Port Health Officer and has charge of the European General Hospital. There is also a Medical Officer of Health with an adequate subordinate staff.

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The two Government hospitals are the European General at Steamer Point and the Civil Hospital in Crater. The nursing staff of these institutions is provided for from funds made available by the Government of the Colony and the Prince of Wales's Aden Nursing Association in the proportion of approximately half and half. The Prince of Wales's Aden Nursing Association is a charitable organization with invested funds raised originally by voluntary subscription, and the Association issue appeals to the public from time to time to supplement the amount of money available from interest on their investments. Two dispensaries in charge of Assistant Medical Officers at Maala and Sheikh Othman respectively cater for the minor ailments of the local population in these districts and serve as clearing stations for the more serious cases which are transferred to the Civil Hospital. One Assistant Medical Officer is stationed on Perim island, where there is a small dispensary with limited accommodation for in-patients.

The Keith Falconer South Arabia Mission have a large and well-equipped hospital at Sheikh Othman staffed normally by two European doctors and a European nursing staff, and other charitable institutions are two dispensaries, one maintained by public subscription with a Government subsidy and the other supported entirely by Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers.

The Royal Air Force hospital meets the medical requirements of the British forces in Aden.

There are several dentists practising in the Colony, and the Royal Air Force have a fully-qualified dentist, who is permitted private practice.

A total of 16,636 out-patients and 2,213 in-patients received treatment during 1937 in the two Government hospitals, and excluding the Royal Air Force hospital, but including the other hospitals and dispensaries, a grand total of 60,069 out-patients and 3,206 in-patients were treated in the Colony.

The general health of Aden has remained satisfactory throughout the year. There is a pleasing absence of the many insect-borne diseases commonly found in tropical and sub-tropical countries, and although a mild intestinal infection is very common, the more serious disease, such as typhoid fever and the dysenteries are gratifyingly rare. A number of cases of malaria appear in the returns, but all of these are imported from the Protectorate or other places outside the Colony, not one single case having been contracted locally.

There is a leprosy hospital at Sheikh Othman, partly supported by the Government of Aden and partly by the Aden Settlement funds and administered medically by the staff of the Keith Falconer South Arabia Mission. Here again the Colony of Aden acts as the kind sister of her neighbours, since the great majority of the patients hail from the interior.

There has been no epidemic of the major infectious or contagious diseases during the year. Chickenpox, measles and

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mumps occur from time to time and are treated in the infectious diseases hospital on Maala plain.

A small lunatic asylum is situated outside the walls of the Civil Hospital and is administered from it.

The port health work is a very important feature in the medical and sanitary organization of the Colony. The proximity of Aden by sea to ports which are subject to periodic infections makes the careful inspection of vessels a vital matter, and in addition the services of the Port Health Officer are in constant demand to assist the masters of the many cargo ships carrying no doctor which use the port. Passengers and members of the crew requiring hospital treatment are accommodated in the European General Hospital or, if the illness is an infectious one, in suitable isolation. It is usual to have patients of four or five different nationalities, European and Eastern, in the wards at the same time, which is a compliment to the hospital and indicative of the service it renders to shipping, but tests very thoroughly the linguistic capabilities of the staff.

During 1937 2,274 bills of health were issued to mechanically-propelled vessels and 1,222 to native craft.

V.—HOUSING.

General.

Houses in Aden are of stone masonry, except at Sheikh Othman where mostly they are built with sun-dried bricks.

In every case particular attention is paid to efficient lighting and ventilation. Each residential quarter is provided with proper sanitary accommodation and kitchen which are suitably detached from the living-rooms by large and open court-yards or by large shafts open to the sky.

Most of the houses are provided with floors made of cement-concrete; this is insisted upon in all new proposals, and the height of the houses is never allowed to exceed the width of the streets.

Back-to-back houses are not allowed; a few still exist in the village of Maala, but these are being eradicated as opportunity occurs.

At the rear of all houses there are open spaces from 5 ft. to 10 ft. wide. They are called sweeper passages, and the sanitary accommodations abut on to these spaces and drain into them. Each such passage is connected with the main drainage system in all divisions of the Settlement except Maala, where it is connected with a big soak-away pit.

With these aims every building plan is carefully scrutinized by the Public Health Department before it is allowed to be constructed.

Most of the dwelling-houses within the Settlement limits are well ventilated and lighted and are satisfactory from a public health point of view. Endeavours are being made to effect an improvement in the architectural standard of the buildings.

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Water Supply.

The water supply is obtained from six bore-wells situated near the village of Sheikh Othman. The supply for the civil population is pumped into two tanks each of 100,000 gallons capacity, and from these tanks the supply gravitates through a 15-in. main to a storage reservoir of 400,000 gallons capacity at the Isthmus.

There is a pump-house at the Isthmus, and the water is drawn from the storage reservoir and chlorinated automatically by a venturi-operated "chloronome" before being pumped to Crater and Tawahi. Some 2,000 houses have been connected to the main water, and fire hydrants have been sited at intervals throughout the system. There are filling-stations for camel-carts at Crater, Tawahi and Sheikh Othman, and by this means water is distributed to houses which have so far not been connected to the main supply. The water is of exceptional bacteriological purity, although rather hard.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Veterinary.

Cattle, sheep and goats are imported from British Somaliland, Arabian and Red Sea ports and from the Yemen and Aden Protectorate for consumption in the Colony. As an indication of the quantity imported annually it is of interest to give the figures of imports from the 1st April, 1937, to the 31st December, 1937.

	Cattle.	*Sheep and Goats.*
From British Somaliland and Arabian and Red Sea ports	Nil	49,772
The Yemen and the Aden Protectorate	2,129	6,369

Of the total imports, only 842 sheep and 26 milk cows were re-exported.

Rinderpest.—There was an outbreak among the milk cows in November and out of over 100 cows 36 died. The cattle were treated by inoculation, and quarantine restrictions were imposed.

Fisheries.

The fishing is, generally speaking, good, but the quantity is greatly influenced by the movements of the different species of sardinella on which the large species feed. Shark, barracuda, horse-mackerel, sea-perch, dolphins, the smaller members of the tunny family, rock cod soles, and mullet are the principal edible fish. Sword or sail fish make their appearance at certain seasons of the year but are not easily saleable for human consumption. Crabs and crawfish are to be had at all seasons, and oysters are available in the winter months. The fishermen are a very industrious people and employ various kinds of nets as well as hand-lines in their work. The nets used are of the stationary, circular throwing, and drag varieties, the latter being used from the shore. In addition a special net is operated from boats working in pairs during the monsoon period. Throwing

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nets for mullet, mackerel and a form of whitebait are also in use.

The catch is at times greater than the requirements for local consumption, and the surplus is salted for export. Shark is almost invariably salted for export and during some seasons large quantities are dried. Whitebait are exported.

The fishermen are subject to certain rules which forbid trawls and limit the size of nets, and in addition they defer to the judgment of their elected Akils in matters of fishing custom.

Licences to dive for pearls both in the harbour and in the waters of Perim are obligatory, but no licences are required to fish.

Salt.

A salt work was first constructed by the Italian firm of Messrs. Gaustalla and Company (now styled The Aden Salt Works) in the year 1885 and it carries on a profitable business in salt production at Shiekh Othman. This was followed by the salt work constructed in 1909 by the Bombay firm of Messrs. Abdullabhoy and Joomabhoy Lalljee and Company. Two more salt works have since been constructed by Messrs. Hajeebhoy Laljee and Company and the Little Aden Salt Industrial Company in May, 1923, and October, 1927, respectively, and which continue to work successfully. The total quantity of salt exported to India and other places during the last year was 396,592 tons. The monopoly of salt for local consumption is in the hands of Government, who have licensed certain pits to Arabs at Shiekh Othman.

The Salt (Additional Import Duty) Act passed by the Indian Legislature in 1931 and since extended to April, 1938, has benefited the Aden salt industry, which under the protection of the duty supplies about two-thirds of the total salt imports into India.

Dhow Building.

Dhows are built at Maala by a number of Hadhrami merchants settled in Aden. They turn out about seven vessels a year, the average carrying capacity of which is about 200 tons. The dhows are constructed of Indian teak from the Malabar coast and are well built and fast. They sail to India (Bombay and Malabar coast) and to the East African coast as well as to neighbouring Arabian ports, and take a large share in local trade, in spite of the competition of the coasting steamers of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers and of Monsieur A. Besse (Halal Shipping Company).

Soap Manufacturing.

A soap manufacturing industry started by Monsieur A. Besse in December, 1932, at Maala is progressing satisfactorily. The soap is manufactured by boiling coconut oil and cold processes. Local labour of 40 men is employed. The output is about 50 cases daily, each case containing 200 cakes which are disposed of locally or exported to the Red Sea ports.

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Dyeing.

There are three factories which do business in dyeing cloth and each employs on an average about 60 persons daily. There are in addition about 18 dyers who do business on a small scale. The dyed goods are mainly exported to Mombasa, Mogadiscio, Massowa, Hodeidah, and the interior of Arabia.

Cigarette Making.

The cigarette industry is conducted on a fairly large scale by Jews and Greeks with tobacco imported from Egypt.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Customs.

Aden being a free port, there are no customs duties.

Trade.

The trade of Aden is mainly transhipment, as the port is a centre for trade between all ports of the world and the neighbouring territories. The principal business is in skins, hides, coffee, cotton piece goods, grain and pulse, sugar, spices, oils, tobacco, gums, shells, and salt. The total value of the sea-borne trade in the year under report (12 months January to December 1937), exclusive of transhipment cargo, was Rs.12,58,94,031 (imports Rs.8,03,85,836 and exports Rs.4,55,08,195), showing an increase of Rs.1,57,18,773 as compared with the total of Rs.11,01,75,258 (imports and exports for the previous official year—12 months, April, 1936 to March, 1937—imports Rs.6,87,17,900 and exports Rs.4,14,57,358). Merchandise increased by Rs.79,67,977, and treasure increased to Rs.77,50,796.

The increase of Rs.79,67,977 in merchandise was mainly in grain and pulse, hides and skins, coal, oils, vehicles, tea, gums, and salt. The increase of Rs.77,50,796 in treasure was due to transactions in imports and exports of Maria Theresa dollars, in which there was considerable speculation.

The Trade Registration Department was formerly a branch of the Aden Port Trust Revenue Department, but on the recommendation of Mr. J. Sladen, who was deputed to Aden in the year 1906 on special duty, it was separated from the 1st April, 1907, and became a Government department. The department is however supervised by the Secretary, Aden Port Trust.

The old Qafilah office at Barrier Gate, where the registration of inland trade is conducted, was taken over by the Government from the Aden Port Trust in 1910 and subsequently converted into an office and quarters for the Qafilah clerk in 1914.

The following statement shows the total value of the imports and exports sea-borne trade of Aden for the last five years.

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Year.	Total Value of Imports Seaborne Trade.	Total Value of Exports Seaborne Trade.
	Rs.	Rs.
1933–34	5,20,56,437	3,45,85,235
1934–35	5,32,34,233	3,15,36,690
1935–36	6,83,04,958	4,45,47,700
1936–37	6,87,17,900	4,14,57,358
1937	8,03,85,836	4,55,08,195
Rs.	32,26,99,364	19,76,35,178

The following statement shows the total value of the imports and exports trade of Aden with the mainland of Arabia for the last five years.

Year.	Total Value of Land Imports.	Total Value of Land Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.
1933–34	12,27,188	6,17,773
1934–35	13,95,026	12,74,510
1935–36	17,97,152	14,02,073
1936–37	21,69,085	16,13,066
1937	19,01,112	17,15,121

The following table shows the comparative importance of the principal articles imported into Aden for the last five years:—

Articles.	1933–34.	1934–35.	1935–36.	1936–37.	1937.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Piece goods, grey	59,99,976	46,25,362	63,65,598	53,71,908	52,06,749
Piece goods, white	10,39,134	10,84,247	14,91,884	17,12,067	19,80,801
Piece goods, coloured.	21,13,445	26,14,801	29,85,891	35,45,721	32,12,673
Coffee	24,33,527	21,25,952	33,80,776	16,86,883	14,73,412
Skins, raw ...	28,96,633	20,53,060	21,53,473	39,64,739	49,01,380
Hides, raw ...	30,308	30,398	50,546	1,41,726	1,92,292
Grain and pulse	28,55,276	25,84,203	42,16,272	42,76,913	52,71,487
Coal	7,86,781	9,24,519	15,35,060	16,32,912	34,54,498
Tobacco... ...	18,70,353	23,55,925	25,93,132	30,20,104	26,14,845
Provisions and oilman's stores.	8,37,499	8,65,178	13,01,996	9,22,797	9,63,727
Sugar	15,49,197	15,09,439	20,04,474	18,74,921	13,88,589
Oils	1,46,16,746	1,69,19,727	1,66,22,287	1,65,81,975	1,79,82,611
Cotton twist ...	11,55,011	8,83,487	11,02,720	6,89,684	8,43,932
Animals, living...	7,60,590	5,63,120	5,85,136	8,59,576	7,18,727
Gums and resin	5,39,072	4,27,767	5,59,805	4,66,869	6,48,225
Spices	6,06,231	7,93,333	12,59,127	13,03,020	13,03,253
Seeds	2,86,286	4,00,747	4,63,979	4,65,671	5,86,729
Metals	4,80,469	4,26,546	5,83,333	8,90,869	8,06,435
Wood	2,69,152	2,73,883	3,79,233	3,59,837	5,02,532
Tea	1,93,091	2,94,954	4,42,690	4,64,655	8,81,645
Fruits and vegetables, including dates.	7,38,569	6,39,963	9,84,804	10,42,425	11,04,983
Dyeing materials	5,42,418	4,68,080	5,45,907	6,15,329	6,11,453
Vehicles, etc. ...	5,02,551	6,03,300	14,44,500	12,84,418	19,94,532
Hardware and cutlery.	3,25,070	3,42,223	6,74,793	5,54,939	5,92,034
Machinery ...	1,17,293	1,26,565	3,47,392	4,67,834	4,15,939
Instruments ...	1,52,602	2,78,580	3,26,844	3,89,308	4,36,009
Glassware ...	1,27,794	1,37,398	2,76,095	2,06,435	2,41,264

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The following table shows the value of the most important articles of the export trade for the last five years:— 439

Articles.	*1933–34.*	*1934–35.*	*1935–36.*	*1936–37.*	*1937.*
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Piece goods, grey	50,91,091	36,66,609	50,62,407	40,02,310	40,99,727
Piece goods, white	5,78,526	5,19,395	7,55,098	9,99,452	9,76,935
Piece goods, coloured.	29,83,297	28,28,147	31,77,184	40,86,579	38,87,306
Coffee	31,34,717	28,58,217	39,11,003	28,12,927	21,26,392
Skins, raw ...	56,95,317	39,18,447	53,57,094	71,94,785	80,94,619
Hides, raw ...	53,752	82,526	1,27,990	3,25,928	4,75,556
Grain and pulse	27,61,882	16,03,581	24,82,494	27,98,300	36,12,030
Tobacco ...	12,92,646	13,78,639	13,56,710	18,30,367	14,38,868
Provisions and oilman's stores.	5,35,699	5,67,504	6,61,462	5,55,675	6,60,563
Sugar	10,87,305	12,06,576	15,02,102	14,57,450	12,20,192
Gums and resins	6,31,467	6,08,409	7,66,767	5,83,822	8,42,817
Salt	29,83,410	27,89,402	36,13,997	30,96,141	33,69,418
Cotton twist ...	10,33,532	6,95,806	8,89,717	4,27,177	4,66,793
Spices	4,22,202	4,57,992	7,19,220	8,22,421	8,95,923
Oils	2,18,332	2,66,069	5,42,149	8,90,763	6,56,495
Metals	1,75,122	1,75,551	2,32,203	2,40,826	3,62,868
Animals, living	1,46,590	82,933	1,19,831	40,215	10,153
Tea	1,28,488	1,53,255	3,10,864	3,33,660	5,51,726
Dyeing materials	3,02,764	1,64,348	2,25,600	2,87,660	4,23,717
Soap	1,07,675	1,10,503	1,87,092	2,71,081	3,15,667
Shells	64,967	72,644	1,22,996	1,19,811	1,26,049

VIII.—LABOUR.

Agricultural Labour.

There being no agriculture in the Colony, the question of agricultural labour does not arise. 241 463

Industrial Labour.

Workers for heavy manual labour are obtained from the Protectorate and the Yemen. This form of labour is principally confined to the shipping companies and the salt-works. The demand for cargo and coal coolies varies, and the local companies arrange through their agents to recruit labour as and when required. The salt companies employ a permanent staff of coolies who are recruited by local agents from the Protectorate and the Yemen. These agents arrange to replace casualties and recruit extra labour when necessary. 464

The interests of the workmen are safeguarded by the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923 and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, which are applicable in the Colony. 466

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IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

463 The inhabitants of Aden are principally engaged in trading and shop-keeping and domestic employment. The large numbers of coolies employed by the salt-works, shipping concerns and contractors are from the Aden Protectorate or the Yemen. The small harbour craft are manned by Somalis, who take kindly to this form of semi-stationary employment.

162 More than half of the personal servant class is from the Aden Protectorate and the Yemen. Clerical labour in public offices 464 and large commercial firms is mostly Indian, although as education improves more and more local Arabs are finding employment in Government offices and European firms. Local Arab firms employ Arab clerical labour almost exclusively.

[465] Masons and building operatives are principally from the Yemen. The following rates of wages are paid:—

Coolies from 8 to 12 annas a day (8 hours).
Masons from 1 to 3 rupees a day (8 hours).
Carpenters from 1 to 3 rupees a day (8 hours).
Clerks from Rs.35 to Rs.250 a month (according to grade).
Personal servants Rs.15 to Rs.50 a month.
Motor-drivers Rs.40 to Rs.100 a month.

511 The daily staple food of a coolie is 2 lb. flour, 2 ounces of 262 ghee, and also fish or meat to the cost of about 2 annas. The total value of the food consumed daily is about 6 annas.

511 The cost of living in the case of others varies with the emoluments of the individual concerned. European standard would average Rs.5 a day exclusive of servants' wages, cost of entertaining and club expenses.

X.—EDUCATION, WELFARE INSTITUTIONS, AND RECREATION.

Education.

Organisation and Administration.

871 While Aden was attached to India, the administration of education followed, with some local modifications, the system obtaining in the Bombay Presidency, and no radical changes in internal organization have been effected since the constitution of Aden as a Colony.

The administration is carried out, under the Governor, by an Education Officer, assisted by a clerical staff. The post of Education Officer was held until November, 1937, by an Indian officer seconded from the Indian Education Service. It is now held by a British officer of the Colonial Education Service. From March, 1933, to March, 1937, there was also an Assistant Education Officer whose main duty was to improve the teaching in

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Arabic primary schools. This post, now abolished, was held by a seconded Arab officer of the Palestine Education Department. 871

To advise Government on educational matters there is an Advisory Committee, consisting of leading citizens under the chairmanship of the Civil Secretary.

In respect of management and degree of Government control, schools are classified as Government recognized aided, recognized unaided, and unrecognized unaided. In respect of academic standard and nature of instruction they are classified as secondary, primary, " indigenous " and " special ". During the period under review there were no recognized unaided schools, and this category, therefore, will be omitted in the tables which follow.

Primary Education.

The normal primary course is of four to five years, consisting of a preparatory stage, of one to two years, and three standards above it. 872

Primary education is given so far as is possible through the vernaculars of the pupils and, except in cases where no vernacular education is obtainable, pupils are not allowed to enter a school in which English is used throughout as the medium until they have completed a primary course through their own vernacular. In Government schools and in most others, English is not taught during the primary course.

The language of over 60 per cent. of the population and the language of instruction in the Government primary schools, both boys' and girls', is Arabic. Primary school education for boys and girls is provided also through English, Gujarati and Urdu in aided schools and through Hebrew, to a limited extent, in unrecognized schools.

The following table shows the number of primary schools in 1937:—

	Boys.	*Girls.*
Government	1	2
Aided	5	4
Unrecognized	3	1
Average number on rolls	1,221	120*
	15	512

* The large majority of these were in the lower classes of the Urdu schools.

The numbers of pupils in Government and aided primary schools were: boys 889, girls 481.

Of the aided schools, two girls' schools are maintained by the Roman Catholic Mission and one by the Danish Church Mission; one boys' school by the Church of Scotland Mission and the rest by private local management.

The unaided schools are all under private local management.

At the end of the primary course a public examination is held, mainly as a qualifying test for admission to the lower section 872 873

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872 of the Government Secondary School. In 1937 132 candidates
873 entered for this examination and 102 passed. Failure in this examination does not necessarily debar a pupil from entering the secondary school, but priority of place is generally given to those who pass. No provision is made for Gujarati, Hebrew or English in this examination.

872 "INDIGENOUS" SCHOOLS, QURAN SCHOOLS AND TALMUD TORAS.

"Indigenous" schools are schools of a primitive nature which attempt to serve the immediate requirements of certain classes of a conservative population. They combine with religious teaching some measure of general primary education.

The more advanced of these are assisted by Government, mainly through *per capita* grants and through free loans of text-books and school equipment.

Quran schools and Talmud Toras are, in most cases, still more primitive and provide little or no general education.

The figures for these schools in 1937 are as below:—

Indigenous Schools, Quran Schools and Talmud Toras.	*Number of Schools.*	*Number on Rolls.*	
		Boys.	*Girls.*
Aided	3	87	27
Unrecognized	33	987	154

It has been the practice for a number of children to pass through these schools before applying for entrance to proper primary schools.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

873 The full secondary course is at present of six standards, at the end of which candidates sit for the Junior Cambridge Examination. This course may be taken completely through English in three aided and two unrecognized schools. For schools using media other than English, the course is of two sections, a lower of three standards through the vernacular and a higher of three standards through English.

The lower secondary course is available for boys through Arabic in the Government and one aided school, and through Gujarati in one other aided school. Pupils attending Urdu primary schools endeavour to acquire during their primary course sufficient Arabic to enable them to join an Arabic lower secondary course, because funds, public or private, do not permit of the provision of a lower secondary course through Urdu. A lower secondary course is provided in the Jewish boys' school, but the medium of instruction is Arabic though written in Hebrew characters. The teaching of English is begun, in Government schools, in the first year of the secondary course.

Secondary education for girls is obtainable only through English, in the two Franciscan convent schools.

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The number of secondary schools in 1937 was as follows:— 873

	Government.	Aided.	Unrecognized.	Number on Rolls. Boys.	Girls.
Boys —					
Lower and Higher Secondary ...	1	2	2	419	—
Lower Secondary ...	—	1	1	94	—
Girls —					
Lower and Higher Secondary ...	—	2	—	3	67

Of the above schools, three aided and one unrecognized are maintained by the Roman Catholic Mission, one aided is maintained by the Church of Scotland Mission, and the rest are under private local management.

The numbers of pupils in the lower and higher secondary sections in Government and aided schools were:—

Boys —	
Higher Secondary	48
Lower Secondary	230
Girls —	
Higher Secondary	24
Lower Secondary	43

In 1937 there was only one entry for the Junior Cambridge Examination, a pupil of the Franciscan Convent School, Tawahi, who passed.

Special Schools.

The only vocational or technical training regularly provided is in commercial subjects. Attached to the Government Secondary School are evening classes conducted by a member of the school staff and attended partly by present pupils of the school and partly by students from outside. There is also an unrecognized institution, the Aden Commercial Institute, which provides both general and commercial education. The commercial subjects studied are mainly book-keeping, typing and shorthand. Candidates from both these institutions are presented for the various examinations of the London Chamber of Commerce. Numbers of students in 1937 were:— 874

Government Evening Commercial Class ...	19
Aden Commercial Institute	100

Finance.

Government expenditure on education in the calendar year 1937 amounted to Rs.63,000 exclusive of cost of repairs to buildings. Of this sum Rs.20,737 were paid out in grants-in-aid —Rs.767 to indigenous schools, Rs.7,061 to primary schools, and Rs.12,909 to secondary schools. 658 871

School fees are charged in Government boys' schools at rates on a scale rising from 1 anna per month in Standard I in the Primary School to Rs.2/8/- in Standard VI of the Secondary

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658 871 School. A number of free places are provided for poor and meritorious students. No fees are charged in the Government girls' schools.

Contributions towards Government expenditure on education are made by the Aden Settlement and by the Aden Port Trust; for the financial year 1937-8, in which the expenditure is estimated to be Rs.93,900, these contributions will amount to Rs.50,000 and Rs.15,000 respectively.

Welfare Institutions.

747 There are no welfare institutions in Aden Colony. The Silver Jubilee (Destitute) Fund is administered by the Chairman of the Aden Settlement, and the interest from the investments is used to provide for relief, principally at Sheikh Othman.

Recreation.

529 Facilities exist for every form of recreation. The Aden Football Association exercises general control of the numerous football clubs and is endeavouring to raise the general standard of play and encourage the right spirit. In addition to the military grounds at Steamer Point (Tawahi) there are grounds reserved for the local inhabitants at Tawahi, Crater, Maala, and Sheikh Othman. Hockey and cricket are played both at Tawahi and Crater. Apart from the military grounds there is only one hockey ground at Crater. There are tennis clubs in Crater and Tawahi and one in the military area, which is exclusively for civil and military Europeans.

Polo and golf and squash rackets are played at Khormaksar, and No. 8 (B) Squadron have a golf course of their own. There is a European bathing club at Gold Mohur Bay, which is open 575 to non-residents on payment of a small charge. At Tawahi there 529 is a European social club and another small social club, the members of which are principally Anglo-Indians and Goans. The Arabs have organized two social clubs, one at Crater and the other at Tawahi. They interest themselves in social matters and provide facilities on their premises for games and meetings. Arabic periodicals are taken and occasionally lectures are given.

XI.—COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

505 The number of vessels, exclusive of country craft, which entered the port of Aden from the 1st April, 1937, to the 31st March, 1938, was 2,261 with an aggregate tonnage of 8,878,040.

The number of country craft entering the port during 1937 was 1,254 with an aggregate tonnage of 53,891.

504 During recent years Aden has developed rapidly as an oil-bunkering port. This is due mainly to its favourable geographical position, as it is nearer to the Persian oil fields than any other

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port on the main shipping route between Europe and the East, and also to the policy of the Aden Port Trust, which has aimed at giving ample facilities for oil fuelling while keeping the charges on this business as low as possible. 504

The following are the principal steamship companies whose vessels call regularly at Aden, and the services provided by them:— 505

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Limited. Ports of call, London, Gibraltar, Marseilles, Port Said, Suez, Port Sudan, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Calcutta, Straits Settlements, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, and homeward.

Orient Line.. Outward—London, Gibraltar, Toulon, Naples, Port Said, Suez, Aden, Colombo, Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane. *Homeward*—Same ports of call as above except that the vessel calls at Plymouth as well as London homeward and sometimes Southampton in the summer.

British India Steam Navigation Company, Limited. To and from Antwerp, Middlesborough, London, Gibraltar, Marseilles, Malta, Alexandria, Port Said, Suez, Port Sudan, Aden, Bombay, Bhavnagar, Port Okha, Bedi Bunder, Navalaki, Cutch Mandvie, Karachi, Colombo, Madras, Northern Coast ports, Rangoon, Penang, Malay Coast ports, Singapore, Mombasa, Tanga, Zanzibar, Dar es Salaam, Beira.

Clan Ellerman and Harrison Joint Service. From Glasgow and Liverpool, sometimes also Bristol Channel ports, Port Said, Suez, Port Sudan, Aden, Mombasa, Zanzibar, Tanga and Dar es Salaam, returning from that port and touching Aden when cargo offers.

Ellerman and Bucknall Line. Calcutta, Madras, Colombo, Aden, Port Sudan (sometimes Djibouti), Port Said, Halifax, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk. 2. From New York, Alexandria, Port Said, Suez, Port Sudan, Aden, Karachi, Bombay, Cochin, Colombo, Rangoon, Calcutta.

Andrew Weir and Company. From Far East, Straits Settlements, Colombo, Aden, Port Sudan, Suez, Port Said, Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Clan Line. From Chittagong, Malabar Coast ports, Aden, London, Glasgow.

Union-Castle. From London, Gibraltar, Marseilles, Genoa, Port Said, Suez, Port Sudan, Aden, Mombasa, Tanga, Zanzibar, Dar es Salaam, Port Amelia, Mozambique, Beira, Lourenco Marques, Natal and homeward.

Strick. From London, Glasgow, Manchester (or other ports as per inducement), Marseilles, Port Said, Suez, Port Sudan (Jeddah optional), Aden and Persian Gulf ports.

Blue Funnel Line. Homeward from Japan, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Colombo, Port Said, Marseilles, and London.

Brocklebank Line. Outward from Middlesborough, Antwerp, London, Port Said, Suez, Aden, Colombo, Tuticorin, Trincomali, Madras, Coconada, Calcutta.

Bombay Persian Line. From Bombay, Karachi, Shehr, Mukalla (sometimes Berbera), Aden, Djibouti, Massawa, Port Sudan, Jeddah, returning via Aden to Bombay via Mukalla and Karachi if inducement offers at these two latter ports.

City Line. From home ports to Persian Gulf and Karachi.

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505 439

British Tanker Company. From and to Persian Gulf.

H. Hogarth and Sons. Load salt at Aden for Calcutta, Rangoon, Chittagong.

Asiatic Steam Navigation Company. Load salt at Aden for Calcutta, Rangoon, Chittagong.

505

Lloyd Triestino, Italia, Tirrenia, Navigazione Libera Triestina S. A. Trieste Soc., Veneziana Navigaz. a Vapore, Venice. Genoa via Naples to Bombay via Aden; Trieste via Massawa and Aden, to Karachi, Colombo, Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Kobe; Bombay and Karachi via Aden to Suez, Port Said, Brindisi, Venice, Trieste; Genoa via Aden to Colombo, Fremantle, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane.

Trieste via Aden to Hafun, Mogadiscio, Chisimaio, Mombasa, Tanga, Zanzibar, Dar es Salaam, Beira, Lourenco Marques, Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London; Venice via Massawa, Djibouti, Aden, Bunder Cassim, Alula, Hafun, Eil Obbia, Mogadiscio, Merka, Brava, Chisimaio, Mombasa, and back by same route to Massawa.

Messageries Maritimes. Marseilles, Port Said, Suez, Djibouti, Aden, Mombasa, Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar, Moheli, Moroni, Mutsamudu, Mayotte, Majunga, Nossi-Be, Diego Suarez, Tamatave, Reunion, Mauritius and homeward via same route. 2. Marseilles, Port Said, Djibouti (sometimes Aden), Colombo, Pondicherry, Madras, Singapore, Saigon, Tourane, Haiphong and homeward via same route. 3. Occasionally calling Aden, Marseilles, Port Said, Djibouti, Colombo, Penang, Singapore, Saigon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama and homeward.

Nippon Yusen Kaisha and Osaka Shosen Kaisha. Homeward way only. From Yokohama, Osaka, Kobe, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Suez, Port Said, Naples, Marseilles, Gibraltar, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hamburg.

Isthmian Line (*Homeward*). From Singapore, Port Swettenham, Belawan and Penang via Aden to Port Said, New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore. 2. From Calcutta to the same discharge ports; also from Calcutta via Aden to Charleston, Savannah, New Orleans, Galveston and Houston. Outward from New York to Aden, Karachi, Bombay, Colombo, Madras, and Calcutta.

Wilh. Wilhelmsen. Do not usually discharge at Aden outward. Homeward from Australian ports to Aden, Port Sudan, Port Said, Alexandria, Malta, Marseilles, Dunkirk, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Bremen, Hamburg, Stavanger, Oslo; route sometimes varies to include a Spanish port or other Scandinavian ports.

Hamburg Amerika Line. Homeward. Dutch East Indian ports via Aden to Antwerp, Rotterdam, Bremen, Hamburg.

Deutsche Ost Afrikka Linie. Outward and homeward as occasion offers. Outward. Hamburg, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Southampton, Lisbon, Ceuta, Malaga, Genoa, Port Said, Suez, Aden, Mombasa, Tanga, Zanzibar, Dar es Salaam, Port Amelia, Mozambique, Beira, Lourenco Marques, Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth, Capetown and above ports via Aden to Hamburg.

Hansa Line. Bremen, Hamburg, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Port Said, Suez, Yambo, Jeddah, Port Sudan, Djibouti, Aden, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, Lingah, Durban, Bahrein, Bushire, Koweit, Bandar Shahpur, Mohammerah and Basrah. *Homeward.* Suez, Port Said, Antwerp, Rotterdam or Amsterdam, Hamburg and Bremen.

Coasting Vessels.—Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers and the Halal Shipping Company, Limited, maintain a fleet of

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five and three steamers respectively which run between Aden and Mukalla, Shehr, Berbera, Zeila, Perim, Djibouti, Mocha, Kamaran, Hodeidah, Gizan, Medi and Port Sudan. Very frequent services of dhows also trade to and from these ports and in addition to many other little ports on both sides of southern Red Sea, Gulf of Aden up to Persian Gulf and also to Socotra.

Many other shipping lines make occasional calls at Aden in connection with cargo, and other lines call at Aden for bunkers only.

The only ports for which there is a poor direct service are the Levant Spanish and Portuguese ports. Cargo is sent with transhipment at Port Said.

Roads.

There are no railways in the Colony and all transport is by road or by sea. The sea transport is not great and consists of the carriage of salt and building materials from Little Aden to Tawahi and Maala.

It is difficult to give an accurate estimate of the road mileage as the side roads in the town which are used principally by pedestrians and camels do not require to be kept up, and the Royal Air Force maintain certain of the roads which lie in the Military Area. The Aden Settlement maintain 13 miles of bituminous macadam road and 19 miles of water-bound macadam road.

Motor Transport.

On the 31st December, 1937, there were 198 licensed public cars and 53 licensed omnibuses. The number of private cars was 367 and there were 66 licensed lorries and trucks.

The following statement shows the countries of origin of the above motor vehicles:—

		No. of vehicles.
1.	British Empire	234
2.	United States of America...	391
3.	French	9
4.	Italian	36
5.	German	14
	Total	684

Trade with the interior is conducted mainly by camel caravans, but as roads and routes in the Aden Protectorate are being developed more and more cars and lorries are being brought into use.

Post Office.

The Postmaster at Steamer Point is responsible for the postal services under the general control of the Finance Officer. The offices in the Colony are situated at Steamer Point, Camp and

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Khormaksar. In addition there is a sub-office on Kamaran Island in the Red Sea and one at Mukalla in the Eastern Aden Protectorate. The Eastern Aden Protectorate has also a number of postal agencies.

Prior to the 1st April, 1937, Aden was included in the Indian Postal System and Indian postage stamps were used. As from the date mentioned, Aden became a separate Postal Administration with its own issue of stamps.

The stamp design includes a vignette of an Arab dhow, a type of craft which has been associated with Aden from time immemorial. The denominations of stamps are: annas ½, ¾, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 3½, and 8; and rupees 1, 2, 5, and 10.

Aden, being on the main shipping route between Europe and the Far East, is an important office of exchange. Mails from Europe and India arrive weekly on the P. and O. mail steamer. Bags for British Somaliland are transhipped to a local steamer sailing for Berbera. Mails for East Africa are unloaded and warehoused in the Steamer Point Post Office until a suitable opportunity occurs to forward them to Mombasa, Tanga, Zanzibar or Dar es Salaam as the case may be. Mails are despatched to India and Europe weekly by the P. and O. mail steamers.

Mails between Aden and the local Red Sea and Aden Gulf ports are carried by the local steamers of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers and the Halal Shipping Company. Use is also made of the Royal Air Force planes and a local air service to the Hadhramaut and Djibouti.

Aden is off the main trunk air routes from Europe to India and Africa. Air mail letters for transmission to places served by Imperial Airways are sent to Egypt by steamer in the first instance.

The principal letter rates are:—

Inland and India—	
Not exceeding one tola	1 anna.
Each additional tola	½ ,,
United Kingdom and British Possessions—	
Not exceeding one oz.	2½ annas.
Each additional oz.	2 ,,
Foreign Countries—	
Not exceeding one oz.	3½ annas.
Each additional oz.	2 ,,
Registration Fee	3 ,,

Parcels are accepted for transmission directly or indirectly with nearly every country in the world, and a cash-on-delivery service operates with Great Britain and with India. Letters and parcels may be insured up to a value of Rs.3,000.

Direct money-order services exist between Aden and Great Britain, India, Egypt, Sudan, Kenya and Uganda, Tanganyika,

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Zanzibar and the Italian East African colonies. Indirectly, money-orders may be sent to nearly every country in the world. By far the greatest volume of traffic is between Aden and India. On an average about 6 lakhs are remitted to India by money-order annually.

British postal-orders are on sale and are cashed at all sub-offices.

There is a Post Office Savings Bank. The amount standing to the credit of depositors in 1937 was about 6 lakhs. Interest is paid at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum.

There is no internal telegraph system. The telephone system is described in the following paragraph. External telegraphic communication (both by cable and wireless) is maintained by the Eastern Telegraph Company.

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication with Aden is maintained by the Eastern Telegraph Company. This company was formed in 1872 to take over, and operate as a whole, cables between England and India, which had already been laid and were being worked under the control of several independent companies.

The formation of the Eastern Telegraph Company was followed by a steady development of the cable system, and Aden immediately became an important junction station, inasmuch as the Red Sea cables branch out from Aden to Bombay, Colombo, Seychelles and Zanzibar, and telegrams from England and the West generally, destined for India, Ceylon and the Far East, Mauritius and Madagascar, and East and South Africa were retransmitted from Aden into the corresponding cable eastwards.

Although, with modern improvements and inventions, retransmission by intermediate stations along a chain of cables is now done by automatic relays, Aden has always remained an important cable centre, and is in touch with all parts of the world through the communications system of Cable and Wireless Limited with which the Eastern Telegraph Company is now associated.

The Eastern Telegraph Company also operates a wireless station, maintaining point-to-point services between Aden and Berbera, Djibouti, Kamaran, Perim, Mukalla, Assab, Alula and Bahrain.

Direct communication with the Yemen is provided by means of a cable from Aden, which is landed at Sheikh Said on the Yemen coast opposite Perim.

The main cable office at Ras Boradli is always open for the reception and despatch of telegrams. There are branch offices at Steamer Point and Aden Camp, which serve the shipping and business centre.

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Telephones.

206 655 The Government Telephone Exchange is worked on the central battery system and has a capacity of 200 exchange lines.

Early telephone developments in Aden were associated with the defence of the fortress. The first system (a magneto one) was installed and operated by the military authorities and later, when the Air Ministry became responsible for defence, the control of the telephones naturally passed to that Ministry.

From 1927 onwards endeavours were made to get the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department to accept responsibility for the system, but it was not till 1932 that the Indian Authorities took it over. By that time the magneto exchange and the overhead lines had reached the end of their useful life. The old system was therefore discontinued and a new central battery system constructed at a cost (including buildings) of about Rupees 1,50,000.

The present rates for direct connections are:—

	Rs.
Within a radius of 3 miles of the exchange ...	300 per annum.
For each additional half mile or fraction thereof ...	40 ,,

An extension in the same building costs Rs. 120/- per annum.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

653 The public works in Aden are managed by the Aden Port Trust who maintain a separate staff for this department. For this service the Port Trust are paid the actual expenditure of this department plus 7½ per cent. for office accommodation and other incidental expenses.

A general programme of minor works was carried out. Provision was also made for the construction of quarters for the Chief Justice, the Legal Adviser and the Education Officer, but these houses were only partially complete at the end of the year.

Two of the Political Officers' bungalows, started in December, 1936, were completed and occupied and the bungalow for the third Political Officer was started.

Works in connection with roads, the development of the water supply and the electricity supply were undertaken by the Aden Settlement.

The harbour and wharves are under the control of the Aden Port Trust. General works of improvement were carried out during the year.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice and Crime.

692 The Colony has a Supreme Court with unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction. An appeal lies from the Supreme Court to the High Court of Judicature at Bombay—

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692

(*a*) in civil cases—

(i) from any final judgment where the value of the subject-matter in dispute in appeal is Rs.5,000 or upwards,

(ii) with the leave of the Supreme Court or the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, from any judgment, final or interlocutory, if, by reason of the importance of the question involved in the appeal or otherwise, the Court is satisfied that leave to appeal ought to be granted; and

(*b*) in criminal cases, from any judgment, provided that the sentence imposed is one of imprisonment exceeding six months or of fine exceeding Rs.500 or is one which includes such imprisonment or fine.

When sentence of death is passed, an appeal, whether lodged or not, is deemed to have been lodged and the Courts concerned act accordingly.

A second appeal lies to His Majesty in Council—

(*a*) as of right, from any final judgment of the High Court, when the value of the subject matter in dispute in such second appeal is Rs.10,000 or upwards, provided that, in case the judgment appealed from affirms the decision of the Supreme Court, the second appeal involves some substantial question of law; and

(*b*) at the discretion of the High Court, from any other judgment, whether final or interlocutory if in the opinion of the High Court, the question involved in the second appeal is one of great general or public importance.

The Supreme Court is presided over by a Chief Justice. It is the only Court of appeal in the Colony and also has powers of revision.

The other Civil Courts in the Colony are:—

(1) the Court of the Registrar, and

(2) the Court of Small Causes.

The Registrar of the Supreme Court is the Judge of both these Courts.

The jurisdiction of the Court of the Registrar extends to all original suits wherein the value of the claim does not exceed Rs.1,000; but certain suits of a prescribed nature are excluded from the jurisdiction of the Court, e.g.,

Suits concerning acts or orders done or made by officers of Government in their official capacity;

suits for specific performance or rescission of a contract, rectification or cancellation of an instrument, or an injunction;

suits relating to a trust;

suits upon foreign judgments;

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692 suits for a general average loss or salvage, or compensation in respect of collision between ships;

suits for restitution of conjugal rights, divorce, or the custody of a minor.

The Court of Small Causes has jurisdiction, save as regards certain suits excepted from its cognizance, provided the value of the subject matter does not exceed Rs.500.

An appeal lies to the Supreme Court from every decree passed by the Court of the Registrar and from every decree passed by the Court of Small Causes provided that the value of the claim exceeds Rs.50.

Subject to the provisions of any Statute in force in England which expressly applies in the Colony or has been extended thereto by Order in Council and of any enactment for the time being in force in the Colony, and so far as the said Statute or enactment shall not extend or apply, the Civil Courts in the Colony exercise their jurisdiction in conformity with usage, and, in the absence of usage, in conformity with the substance of the common law, the doctrines of equity, and the Statutes of general application in force in England on the 1st April, 1937.

671 692 The common law, doctrines of equity and Statutes of general application are applied so far only as the circumstances of the Colony and its inhabitants permit and subject to such qualifications as local circumstances may render necessary. In particular, the personal laws of Mohammedans, Hindus, Jews and Parsees are applied, save in so far as these laws have been expressly superseded by legislation, in matters of marriage, divorce, guardianship, inheritance, etc.

671 The enactments in force in the Colony on the 31st December, 1937, include twenty-five Ordinances enacted during the period under review and all Indian and Bombay Acts and Regulations in force in the Colony on the 31st March, 1937, not expressly repealed thereafter.

692 The Supreme Court is the only Criminal Court having power to pass a sentence of imprisonment exceeding two years or fine exceeding one thousand rupees. All trials in the Supreme Court are by jury. In the case of Europeans and Americans, the majority of the jurors must be Europeans or Americans. The other Criminal Courts of the Colony are those of—

(1) the Chief Magistrate,

(2) Divisional Magistrates at Tawahi, Crater, Sheikh Othman and Perim.

An appeal lies to the Supreme Court in all cases in which a sentence of imprisonment exceeding one month or of fine exceeding Rs.50 has been passed. The Supreme Court has also powers of revision.

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No sentence of death can be passed on a pregnant woman or a youthful offender. Save in exceptional cases a youthful offender is dealt with—

(1) by placing him on probation, or
(2) by discharging him after due admonition, or
(3) by delivering him to his parent, guardian or relative, who has executed a bond for his good behaviour, or
(4) by fine, or
(5) by whipping, or
(6) by ordering his detention.

691

There is a considerable amount of petty civil litigation in the Colony. During the period under review, 22 suits of value Rs.79,957-10-0 were filed in the Supreme Court, 275 suits of value Rs.41,736-13-3 in the Court of Registrar, and 1,142 suits of value Rs.55,063-2-11 in the Court of Small Causes. Twenty-seven suits of value Rs.88,373-14-9 were disposed of by the Supreme Court, 285 suits of value Rs.44,529-3-9 by the Court of the Registrar, and 1,150 suits of value Rs.53,936-5-6 by the Court of Small Causes. Thirty-two applications for revision were filed and three appeals lodged in the Supreme Court which disposed of thirty-one such applications and three appeals. The miscellaneous proceedings in the Supreme Court included thirty-two applications concerning guardianship matters, five applications for succession certificates, and sixteen applications concerning other matters. The corresponding disposals were 29, 5, and 16 respectively. Eight insolvency proceedings were before the Supreme Court. Eleven estates of minors and one estate of a lunatic were in charge of the Supreme Court. Ten divorce cases were heard by the Courts, all brought by Mohammedan women and decrees were granted in five cases.

The following number of criminal cases were heard and determined in the Courts of the Magistrates during the period under review:—

Number of persons.			*Convictions.*	*Discharged or acquitted.*
Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*		
1,737	348	2,085	979	1,042

Two cases were committed to the Supreme Court, one resulting in a conviction, and one in acquittal. The majority of criminal cases heard in the Courts of the Magistrates were for minor offences against the person, insult, affray, minor offences punishable under the Aden Settlement Regulation or the Police Ordinance, and minor traffic offences.

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Offence.	Number of cases.
691 Voluntarily causing hurt	163
Assault	159
Other offences against the person	31
Theft	37
Other offences against property	35
Insult	363
Affray	183
Other offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code ...	83
Cruelty to animals	29
Offences punishable under the Police Ordinance	390
Offences punishable under the Indian Motor Vehicles Act...	478
Offences punishable under the Aden Settlement Regulation	161
Offences punishable under other enactments	30

681 The various punishments imposed during the year in respect of the convictions in the Courts of the Magistrates were as follows:—

Imprisonment with or without fine	133
Whipping	7
Fine only	813
Bound over or otherwise dealt with	13

691 Eighty-four applications for maintenance were made in the Courts of the Magistrates. Orders for maintenance were granted in 36 cases.

691 The offences in respect of which persons were tried in the Supreme Court were:—

692 (1) Theft with 11 previous convictions;

(2) misappropriation of a postal letter while in course of transmission by post; criminal breach of trust as a public servant in respect of the said letter; and dishonestly using as genuine a receipt in respect of the said letter, knowing it to be forged.

Nine criminal appeals were lodged and 38 proceedings in revision taken in the Supreme Court. Twenty-six of such proceedings arose out of applications and twelve were taken by the Court *suo motu*. In one appeal the case was remanded for retrial, and eight appeals were dismissed. Twenty applications for revision were dismissed. As a result of one such application, sentence was enhanced; as the result of another, sentence was reduced; and in the case of four, convictions were set aside. In revisional proceedings taken by the Court *suo motu*, sentence was enhanced in six cases and varied in one case, no action being taken in the remaining cases.

693 There are five lawyers practising in the Courts of the Colony, three being Hindus, one a Mohammedan, and one a Parsee. Sanads are granted by the Supreme Court under rules made under the Supreme Courts Ordinance. Two of these lawyers are barristers-at-law and the other three have Indian legal qualifications.

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Police.

625

The police under the control of a Commissioner of Police and a Deputy Commissioner consist of two forces, an unarmed and an armed force. The strength of the former is 9 Inspectors, 4 Jamadars and 306 men. The strength of the armed force is 4 Inspectors, 1 Jamadar and 200 men. Details of the strength are as follows:—

UNARMED POLICE.

	Inspectors.	*Jamadars.*	*Head Constables and Constables.*
Aden Land and Sheikh Othman Foot Police ...	3	2	224
Perim Land Police ...	—	—	13
Sheikh Othman Mounted Police	—	1	12
Aden Harbour Police ...	4	1	57
Total	9	4	306

ARMED POLICE.

	Inspectors.	*Jamadars.*	*Head Constables and Constables.*
At Aden	2	1	140
At Perim	1	—	30
At Kamaran	1	—	30
	4	1	200

Prison.

697

The Aden District Prison is located in the Crater.

The chief industries of the jail at present are: (1) cane work of all sorts, (2) manufacture of tennis, hockey and football nets, (3) restringing of tennis racquets, and (4) breaking stone metal.

The permanent staff of the prison consists of a Superintendent, a Jailor, a Head Clerk, a Subordinate Medical Service Officer, a Jamadar, a Quartermaster Havildar, two Lance Naiks and twelve sepoys. Two temporary wardresses are employed whenever female prisoners are admitted, one for day and one for night duty.

All members of the permanent staff are provided with free quarters close to jail premises, with the exception of the Superintendent and the Subordinate Medical Service Officer.

Official and non-official visitors appointed under the prison rules visit the jail once a week in rotation and hold a combined inspection once a quarter.

There is an Advisory Committee consisting of a President, two officials and two non-official members, which meets every six months to review sentences of long-term prisoners (five years and upwards). One meeting of the Advisory Board was held during the year and one case of a long-term prisoner was reviewed; the convict in question was not recommended for release.

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XIV.—LEGISLATION.

671 Twenty-five Ordinances were enacted between the inception of the Colony on the 1st April, 1937, and the close of the year. The most important of these were the following:—

General Clauses Acts (Adaptation). This Ordinance provided the necessary new terminology, etc., for carrying on the Indian and Bombay Acts in force before the birth of the Colony.

Interpretation and General Clauses. On the usual Colonial model.

Criminal Courts Ordinance, modelled on the Indian Criminal Procedure Code, with provision for jury trials in the Supreme Court, with appeals to the High Court of Bombay under the Aden Colony Order, 1936.

Income Tax, following closely the repealed Indian Income Tax Acts.

Civil Courts Ordinance, adapting, with little change, the Indian Code of Civil Procedure for the continuance of the Supreme Court, Registrar's and Small Causes Courts.

Stamp Ordinance, following closely the Indian Stamp Act.

Limitation, following the Indian Limitation Act.

Court Fees, continuing the former fees as varied under Bombay.

Guardians and Wards, following the Indian Guardian and Wards Act, but with larger discretion to the Judge in the interests of the minor.

Pensions, on the usual Colonial Model.

Police, adapting the Bombay Police Law.

Prisons, closely following the repealed Indian Acts.

Excise, a short and simple adaptation of the Bombay Abkari Act. Aden being a free port, liquor is one of the few excisable articles.

Dangerous Drugs and Poisons, a short law in Colonial form superseding the Indian Acts and Opium Act.

Subsidiary Legislation during 1937.

Civil Courts Rules, containing the less important provisions of the Indian Civil Procedure Code.

Excise Rules, replacing all the rules under the repealed Bombay Akbari Act.

Dangerous Drugs and Poisons Rules, replacing the Dangerous Drugs, Poisons and Bombay Opium Rules.

466 The Indian Workmen's Compensation and Factories Acts are still in force in the Colony.

657 There is no legislative provision for health insurance, old age pensions, etc., in the Colony.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Banking.

453 The National Bank of India Limited is established in the Colony with its chief office in the Crater and a branch at Steamer Point. The commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers also carries on the business of banking.

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Currency.

The monetary unit is the Indian rupee (silver) and is legal tender for any amount. The subsidiary Indian coins are:—

Silver—
- Half rupee.
- Quarter rupee.

Nickel—
- Four anna piece.
- Two anna piece.
- One anna piece.

Bronze—
- Single pice (¼ anna).
- One pie piece (1-12th anna).

Subsidiary coins are legal tender for sums not exceeding one rupee. Indian Government currency notes are in circulation—the denominations being Rs.5, Rs.10, Rs.50, and Rs.100.

Prior to the transfer of Aden to the control of the Colonial Office the Government of India maintained a Currency Reserve in Aden. The reserve as it stood on the 1st April, 1937, was allowed to remain in Aden to meet the requirements of the Royal Air Force against payment to the Government of India in London. The reserve was reduced to about Rs.6 lakhs by the end of 1937 and will soon be exhausted. When it is exhausted, the provision of currency in Aden will be arranged through the banks. The Government, however, will take steps to see that both the coinage and notes in circulation are kept in good condition.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial weights and measures are in common use, as also are certain Indian weights. For instance, in the Post Office inland letters are exchanged at so much per *tola*: foreign letters, however, are weighed by the ounce. A *tola* is the weight of a freshly minted rupee, *i.e.*, 0·4114 of an ounce. Eighty *tolas* = 1 *seer* and 40 *seers* = 1 Bombay *maund* (about 80 lb.). There is, however, a local *maund* which is only 28 lb.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

As the Colony only came into existence on the 1st April, 1937, the figures of revenue and expenditure for the first financial year are not yet available. The approved and revised estimates for 1937-8 are as follows:—

REVENUE.

	Approved Estimates.	*Revised Estimates.*
	Rs.	Rs.
Duties, Taxes, etc.	931,000	950,000
Court Fees and Government Services ...	91,900	110,000
Reimbursements	325,260	350,000
Posts and Telephones	261,000	600,000
Miscellaneous...	55,000	50,000
	1,664,160	2,060,000

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651

EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	Rs.
Recurrent	1,586,244	1,597,000
Extraordinary	73,200	160,000
	1,659,444	1,757,000

It will be observed that the chief revenue increase is under Posts and Telephones and the item responsible for this is the sale of stamps to collectors and dealers, both the new issue introduced on the inauguration of the Colony and the Coronation issue.

653 The increase under Extraordinary Expenditure arises out of
652 the necessity to build quarters for the Chief Justice, the Legal Adviser and the Education Officer.

652 The surplus for the year 1937/38 will be just over Rs.3 lakhs, which will practically wipe out the excess of liabilities taken over from the Government of India. It is estimated that the financial year 1938/39 will open with assets just about balancing the liabilities.

Public Debt.

The Colony has no public debt.

Taxation.

651 The main source of revenue is Income Tax which is levied under the Income Tax Ordinance 1937. In the case of every company and registered firm the rate is two annas and four and a sixth pies in the rupee; in the case of individuals, etc., the rate varies from six and a half pies in the rupee on incomes over Rs.2,000 to two annas and four and a sixth pies in the rupee on incomes over Rs.100,000. In respect of the excess of total income over a specified figure which varies from Rs.30,000 to Rs.75,000 according to the circumstances. Supertax is also charged.

There are no customs duties, but there is an excise duty on intoxicating liquors.

The production of salt is subject to a tax which is collected when the commodity is exported or sold for local consumption. Practically the whole of the salt tax revenue is derived from salt exported to India and the Far East. The tax on salt so exported is 8 annas per ton.

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The revenue derived from the taxation of motor vehicles accrues to the Aden Settlement, which body undertakes the maintenance and improvement of roads. 651

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Port Administration.

The Port of Aden, which affords safe accommodation for vessels up to 33 feet in draught (vessels of deeper draught can be handled by working the tides) is administered by a Board of Trustees constituted under the Port Trust Act V of 1888. The Board is at present composed of four officials including the Chairman, who is also Chairman of the Aden Settlement, and seven non-officials. The Trustees are appointed by the Governor for a period of two years. 647 504

The minimum depth of water at low tide available in the approach channel and inner mooring basin except the four deep-water berths is 32′ 6″; there are four oil-berths connected to the land installation by submarine pipe-lines, and two have been dredged to a minimum depth of 35 feet at L.W. There are two other berths dredged to a similar depth available for the supply of bunker coal and for general purposes. 504

The Port Trust maintain a pilot service consisting of one Harbour Master and five pilots. 502

The Aden Port Trust publish a separate administration report. 647

Mercantile marine matters are dealt with by a Port Officer. The present incumbent is an officer of the Royal Indian Navy and is also Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Aden Port Trust Finance.

Statement showing the opening and closing balances with actual receipts and expenditure for the year ending the 31st March, 1938:—

	Rs.
Opening Balance on the 1st April, 1937	25,18,521
Receipts for the year 1937–38	16,30,598
	41,49,119
Expenditure for the year 1937–38	10,17,871
Closing Balance on the 31st March, 1938	31,31,248

Note.—The Port Trust Accounts are maintained for the financial year and not for the calendar year. The above figures are therefore based on the working of the financial year.

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Municipal Administration.

633 The Municipal Administration of Aden is carried on by the Executive Committee of the Aden Settlement subject to the authority of the Governor under the powers vested in him by the Aden Settlement Regulation VII of 1900 as amended by Regulation V of 1919 and 1927.

Municipal Finance.

Revenue.

652 The following table shows the principal sources of revenue of the Aden Settlement for the years 1933-37. As the period under report is only for nine months, therefore no comparison can be made between this period and the revenue of the previous four years.

No.	*Principal sources of revenue.*	*1933–34.*	*1934–35.*	*1935–36.*	*1936–37.*	*For 9 months from 1st April to 31st Dec., 1937.*
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Taxes	3,74,801	3,69,235	3,68,985	4,00,711	3,78,221
2	Licences	39,340	41,422	43,851	47,692	34,235
3	Permits	14,520	13,624	14,034	16,019	11,415
4	Rents	71,468	71,337	74,883	75,068	64,332
5	Fees	72,291	76,927	90,022	1,01,960	87,581
6	Sales	19,655	9,090	5,820	4,314	2,011
7	Royalties	50,625	46,580	65,135	50,565	48,500
8	Miscellaneous receipts such as contributions, grants and interest on investments, etc.	55,271	52,998	70,769	54,857	43,125

Municipal Debt.

A loan of Rs.300,000/- was obtained from the Aden Port Trust at an interest of 4½ per cent. per annum in February 1935 in order to repay the balance of a loan obtained from the Indian Government at an interest of 6 per cent. per annum in connection with the Water & Drainage Schemes.

Expenditure.

The following table shows the expenditure for the years 1933-37. As the period under report is only for nine months, no comparison can be made between this period and the expenditure for the previous four years.

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No.	Expenditure.	1933–34.	1934–35.	1935–36.	1936–37.	For nine months from 1-4-37 to 31-12-37
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Administration ...	79,049	80,738	82,589	75,917	68,870
2	Public Works ...	28,709	32,102	32,518	31,656	29,901
3	Lighting	39,440	33,814	35,959	33,289	25,285
4	Police	42,415	42,730	42,957	42,824	32,700
5	Hospital and Dispensaries.	26,161	28,819	26,617	26,915	14,893
6	Vaccination	5,460	5,205	5,086	4,923	3,578
7	Anti-Malaria ...	6,878	6,629	6,571	6,617	4,766
8	Plague	4,583	4,581	4,243	4,212	3,222
9	Tawella rain-water and Sheikh Othman wells.	5,392	4,259	4,158	5,665	2,426
10	Roads	59,568	66,788	65,747	58,204	50,051
11	Sanitation and Public Health.	1,91,567	1,73,621	1,71,303	1,63,428	1,22,511
12	Markets and Zaribas	8,078	8,120	8,058	8,293	6,768
13	Slaughter-houses ...	3,296	3,233	2,989	2,889	2,616
14	Gardens and Public Museum.	14,470	15,297	16,203	13,420	11,558
15	Veterinary	2,969	2,648	2,723	3,849	3,117
16	Registration ...	24,806	23,981	21,352	22,207	17,854
17	Dhobiwada and bathing places.	3,382	3,186	4,416	3,334	2,736
18	Cattle stables ...	1,567	1,235	1,491	911	512
19	Public Land Conveyance.	1,853	1,745	1,536	2,161	2,147
20	Miscellaneous ...	28,368	37,726	39,159	53,444	19,774

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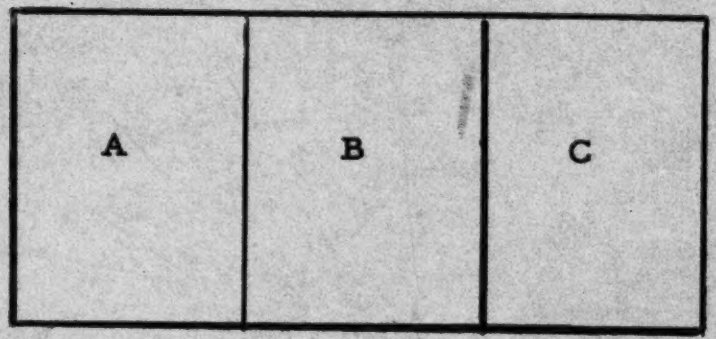

Chart of position of sections of end map.

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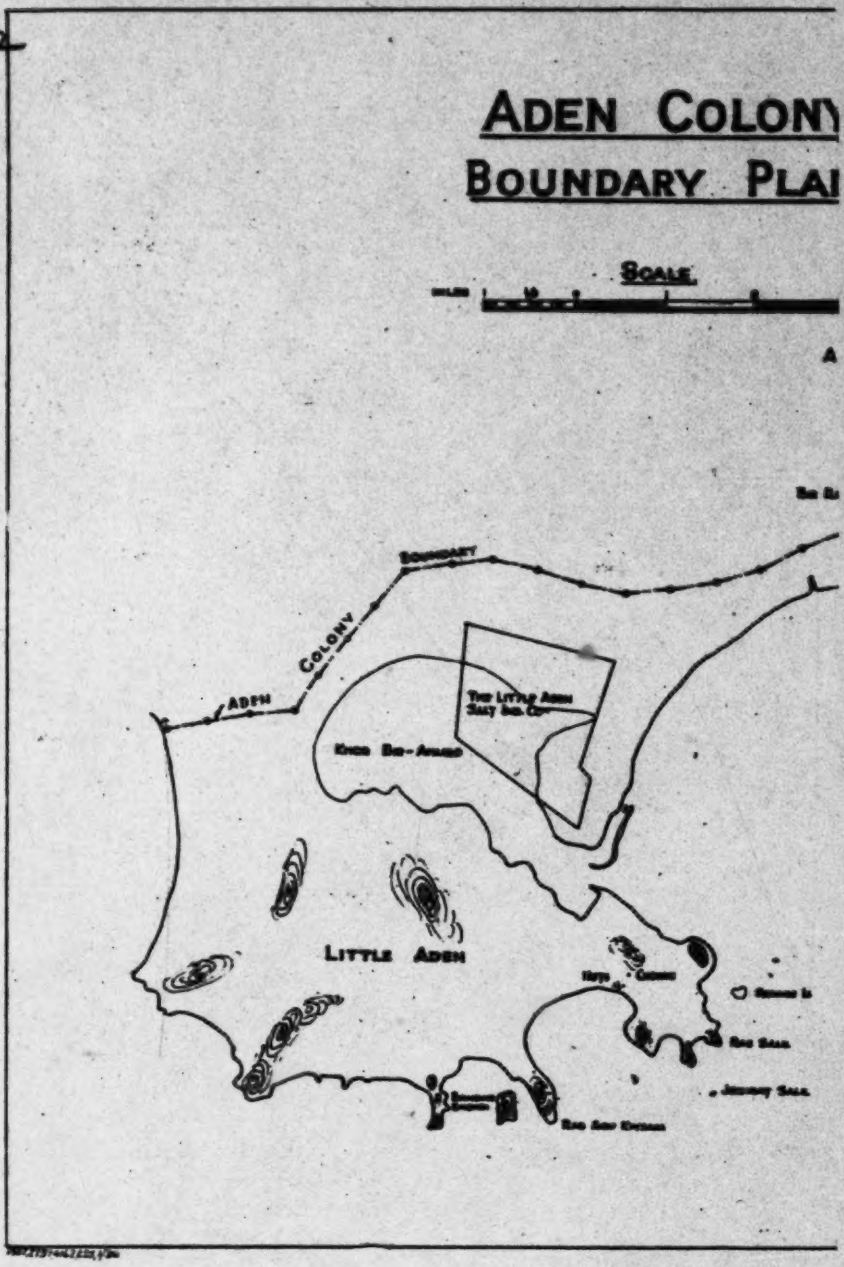
ADEN COLONY
BOUNDARY PLAN



End map (A)

4: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1939 MM1 Aden MM1

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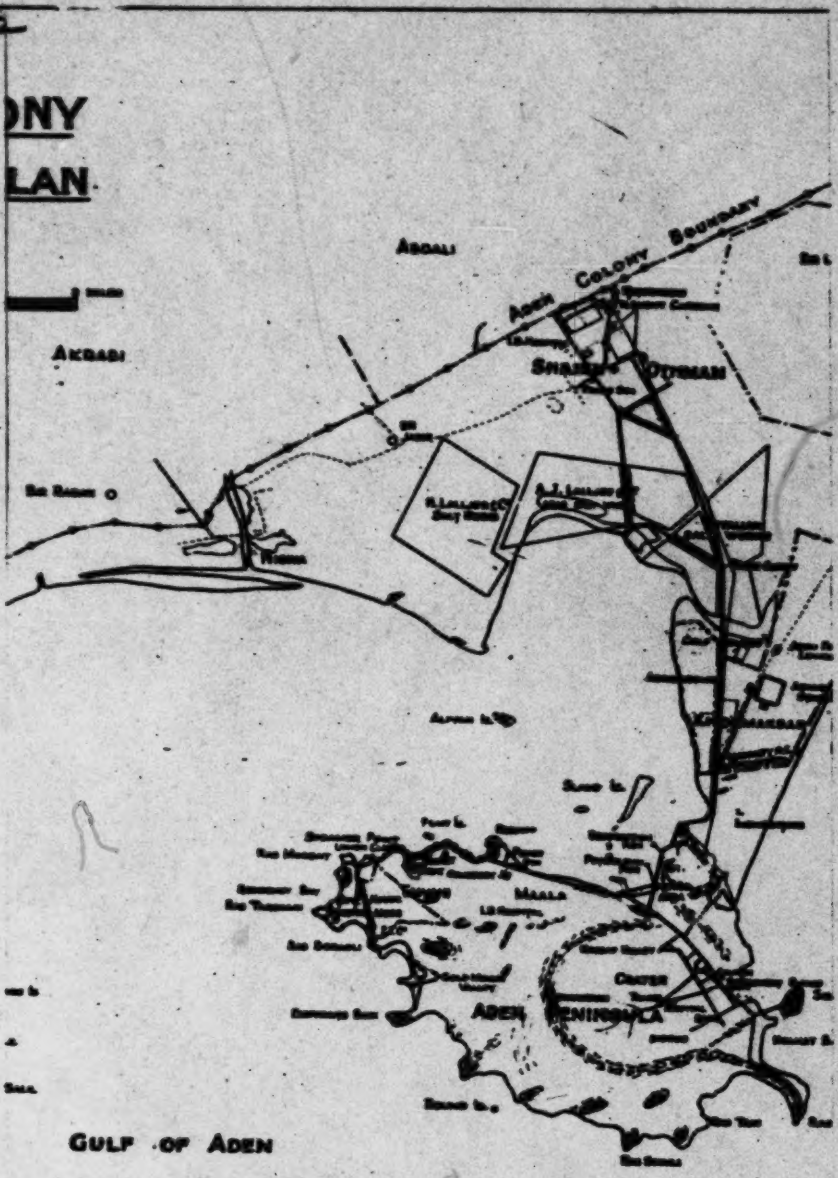

End map (B)

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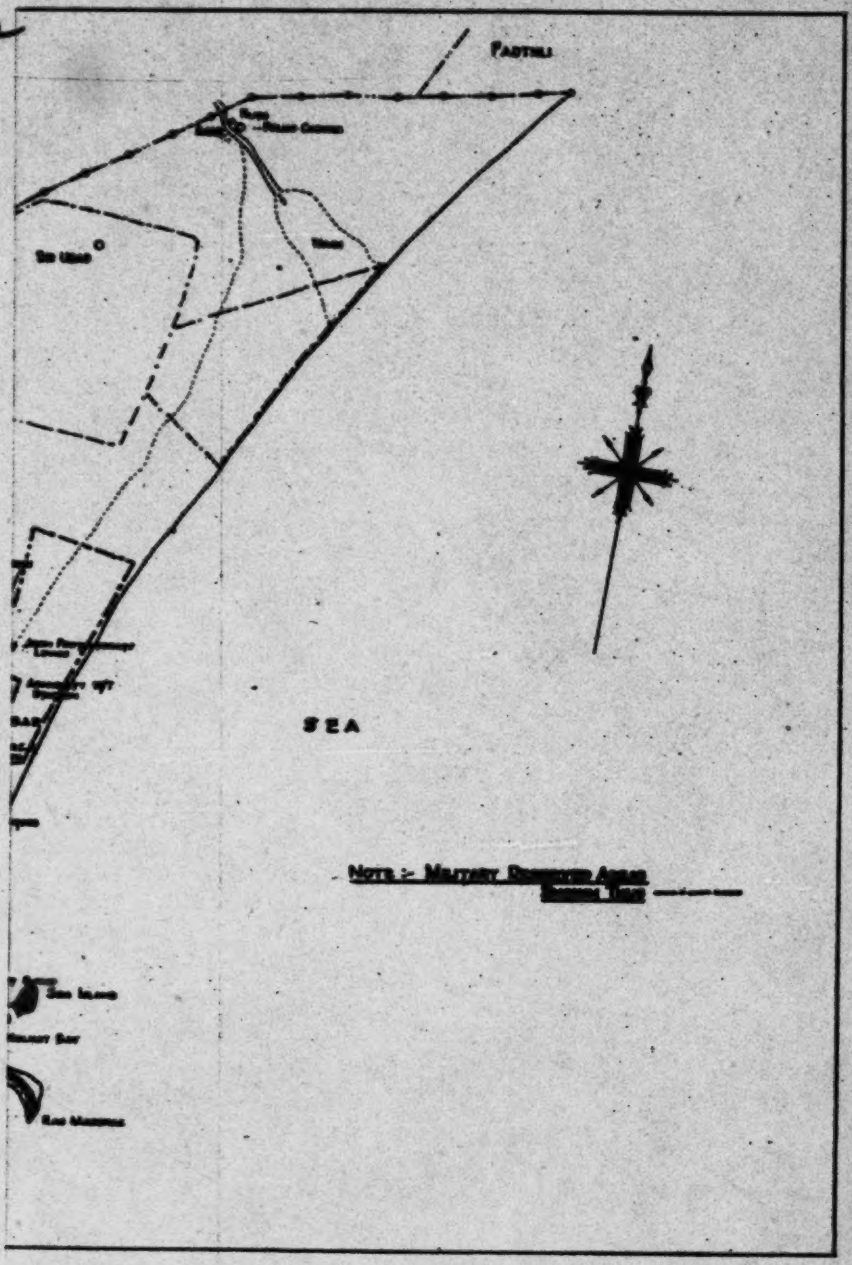

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